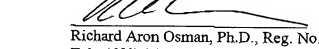
libraries of agents for screening is found on p.4, line 21; support for delivery of antigenic polypeptides to antigen-presenting cells is found on p.5, line 12; support for no growth or metabolism of the bacterium in the eukaryotic cell is found on p.6, line 5; support for a laboratory strain of E. coli engineered to deliver to antigen-presenting cells antigenic polypeptides which are presented in association with MHC proteins is found in the Examples, see, e.g. p.11, lines 20-21. Note that for convenience, unamended claims are reproduced in small type and indicated as such. These amendments introduce no new matter.

The claims are in compliance with 35USC103(a). All the pending claims require that the promoter has expressed, be expressing and/or can express the cytolysin in the bacterium. The cited art teaches the opposite: that the cytolysin be not expressed by the bacterium, but rather by the targeted eukaryotic cell. Darji et al. (1997) teaches a conceptually different method where the cytolysin is used not for delivery (it is not even expressed until after integration into the eukaryotic cell), but as an immunogen. Finally, the term nonvirulent means incapable of causing disease whereas attenuated merely means weakened, hence these terms can be related but are not interchangeable.

Applicants hereby petition for any necessary extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overcharges associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 19-0750 (order no.B98-039).

Respectfully submitted,
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LAW GROUP



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